



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEVADA MAN SENTENCED FOR COCAINE POSSESSION

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Nevada man was sentenced in federal court today for possessing with intent to distribute more than five kilograms of cocaine.

Ramiro R. Urbina, 44, of North Las Vegas, Nevada, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to 25 years in federal prison without parole, after a finding by the court that the federal sentencing guidelines are unconstitutional. In the event that the federal sentencing guidelines are applied, the court also rendered an alternative sentence of 21 years and 10 months.

Urbina was convicted by a federal jury on March 17, 2004. The jury also found that **Urbina** should forfeit to the government a 2000 Ford F-250 truck along with an exterior gas tank and tool box that were in the bed of the truck, and a Imperial Brand horse trailer, which were included in two criminal forfeiture counts of the federal indictment.

The original criminal complaint against **Urbina** resulted from a highway interdiction by the Missouri State Highway Patrol. **Urbina** was driving a Ford F-250 pickup truck that was pulling a horse trailer, Graves said, when he was stopped on Interstate 44 in Lawrence County at approximately 10 a.m. on April 1, 2003, by a Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper due to a lane violation.

In a search of the vehicle, the trooper discovered six bundles of cocaine, weighing about six kilograms, in a hidden compartment of an external fuel tank.

Urbina agreed to cooperate with law enforcement officials in a controlled delivery of the drug to the buyer in Dayton, Ohio. But en route to Dayton, Graves said, **Urbina** attempted to flee law enforcement agents by stealing a car and leading officers on a high-speed pursuit on

Interstate 70 in Indianapolis, Indiana, until he stopped and was arrested.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Randall D. Eggert. The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Greene County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Indiana State Police and the Hancock County, Indiana, Sheriff's Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow